

PARIS IS DEPRESSED

Siecle Sees Danger to America in Imperialism.

TROUBLE ABOUT MASS MONEY

Question Is What to Do with Bequests for Perpetual Requiem Services—France Hopes to Grow Her Own Cotton—Dream of Perpetual Health Attracts Attention.

Paris, Dec. 29.—With all its problems, of which the chief is the religious question, France does not neglect the political developments in the United States. A dispatch was published here this week stating that President Roosevelt is losing his popularity, largely through his advocacy of Federal supremacy over State rights, and partly by his general desire to dominate everywhere.

"Gil Blas" seizes the opportunity to be amused. It says: "Roosevelt is becoming unpopular, and we don't know it. The news comes via England. Alas, it is London that informs us. New York neglects Paris. Paris and New York have direct relations, and special wires only with London. Are we so inferior to the Anglo-Saxons and the rest of the world? I blush long. President Roosevelt is reproached with being in the way and wishing to be the whole government, to concentrate upon himself the legislative, executive, and judicial powers; to reform spelling, and with bothering Ambassador McCormick. All this should have taken some minutes. Has it resulted instantaneously, this unpopularity, to cause its transmission by special wire to a last edition? I ask myself and wonder if it be true."

Siecle Discusses Imperialism.
The Siecle also discusses imperialism in the United States, saying the struggle between imperialism and federalism has begun. The first will draw the power of those who dream of military glory and all the ambitions which for thirty centuries have made blood flow in Europe, and the latter will draw the power of those who have preserved the traditions of the great statesmen of America and the ideal of the founders of the great republic.

Paris hears that a valuable collection of paintings belonging to Prince Clement de Metternich-Vincentz has been transported from his home to the Vienna Imperial Museum. The reason for this is that the prince is badly in debt, and it is believed the paintings are not likely to be sold at auction, as they may be sold at auction, as it is said they offer excellent inducements for competition. It is reported further, however, that the Austrian government has already concerned itself with the likelihood of the dispersion of the treasures, and has taken measures to prevent the clandestine removal of the paintings from the country.

Question About Money for Masses.
The prefect of Haute Savoie has suspended seven mayors for refusing to notify priests of orders sequestrating parish property.

The *Elisir* publishes a report that the Pope has decided to appeal to the whole Catholic world for subscriptions in aid of the French clergy.

An interesting legal question in regard to money left for masses is soon to come before one of the tribunals. A music publisher named Isly, who died in 1904, left 25,000 francs each to three churches for perpetual celebration of the masses for himself and his relatives. The legacies were not carried out before the law of 1905 was passed, and the administrator now wants a legal decision as to whether he ought to postpone a settlement until the church property is handed over and the legacies nullified as having been made to persons unknown. In this and other similar cases the heirs of the original donors intend to claim money so left because if it can no longer be used for the purposes for which it was bequeathed, they claim it should revert to them.

Mr. Albano, a Brazilian bishop, who was going to Rome, broke the journey at Nice, where, early this morning, he celebrated mass. Before leaving the church he received a summons and later appeared before a consistory and underwent an interrogation. The bishop, who witnessed the separation of church and state in Brazil, will now be able to compare the different methods employed.

France to Raise Its Own Cotton.
The attempt of Great Britain to make that empire independent of the United States for cotton supplies by encouraging its colonial production, is now being repeated in France, where a colonial cotton association has been founded which promises to save France from spending 60,000,000 francs annually on American cotton, and, further, to produce a surplus, which may be sold to other countries. The secretary of the association says that he has no doubt of the ultimate success of the scheme, but admits that it will require the raising of some hundred thousands of francs annually for several years. A subscription list has been opened with a view of aiding the colonies to produce cotton, and so far \$14,000 has been raised. Of this amount the colonial authorities gave \$3,300.

Japan's tastes in literature and the drama, according to the *Figaro*, favor the English, French and German schools. The English is easily first, and is represented by Carlyle, Macaulay, Spenser, Tennyson, Byron, and Milton. France is represented by Rousseau, whose "Contrat Social" greatly influenced Japan's new birth. After Rousseau, the most popular French authors are Hugo and Maupassant. Sardou's dramas are meeting with success in Japan, while Goethe's "Faust" is the most read of German works.

Has Vision of Perpetual Health.
"Provided this electric cleansing is followed by auxiliary treatment in expelling from our bodies the morbid waste caused by electricity, there is no longer any internal reason for growing old or even dying"—this is the promise held out by the *Matin* after a lengthy explanation of Prof. D'Arsonval's "high-frequency-current" electric treatment.

The discoverer, who is one of the most eminent members of the Academy of Sciences, says the majority of people die of arteriosclerosis. He uses a sphygmometer to measure the tension of the blood in the arteries. If the mercury of the instrument marks 15 or 16 centimeters, it shows a normal tension. If the tension is higher or lower, Prof. D'Arsonval says six baths of the "high-frequency-current" will bring it to the normal where it will remain, and danger of arteriosclerosis being removed. These baths of five to ten minutes each may be taken three times a week. They give the patient absolutely no sensation. It only remains to find a method of checking the moods from within, and the *Matin* believes we will possess the means of perpetual health.

DAILY FASHION HINT.



Slashed Effects Are Modish.

No prettier variation of the guimpe frock than that illustrated above has yet been seen. The material, a broadcloth, is slashed from shoulder to waist line, and shows beneath the plain waist of allover flit lace mounted over an orkeda slip. The edges of these slits may be buttoned with silk twist or left raw, as in this instance.

GOVERNMENT TO AID JAPS

Washington Arranges to Provide for Equal School Privileges.

Officials Hold Conference, but Are Not Prepared to Give Out Any Details.

The federal government will take steps to provide equal school privileges for the Japanese in San Francisco. This was the decision reached at a conference held yesterday afternoon between Secretary of State Root, Attorney General Bonaparte, and United States District Attorney Devlin, of San Francisco.

The government is not yet ready to announce the exact form of the legal action, but it is understood that the Supreme Court of California will be asked to restrain the school authorities from excluding Japanese residents from the public schools attended by white children.

In accordance with a previous understanding, a statement of facts has been agreed upon for presentation to the Supreme Court of that State. The question will be one of the most important ever presented for adjudication. It is aimed to define the exact relations that the State bears to the Federal government under treaty obligations.

The government is moving carefully and weighing each act with unusual deliberation. District Attorney Devlin will be in the city several days to assist in the preparation of the government's case.

It is expected that the Department of Justice will in a few days announce formally the decision reached by the government.

FAIRCHILD DENIES FRAUD.

Declares He Received No Benefit from New York Life Deal.

Rome, Dec. 29.—Charles S. Fairchild, ex-secretary of the United States Treasury, who with George W. Perkins, of New York, was indicted yesterday by the grand jury at that city on charges of forgery in the third degree in connection with the affairs of the New York Life Insurance Company, has been in this city for three weeks. When informed of the action taken by the grand jury Mr. Fairchild said:

"I have just received a cable message from my lawyers in the United States giving me a summarized report of the proceedings. I shall answer that I personally derived no profit from the transaction on which the indictments are based, which were entirely for the benefit of the policy holders of the New York Life Insurance Company.

The matters referred to are probably in connection with the Chicago and North-western and the St. Paul railroads' securities, of which the insurance company held large amounts. Under its by-laws the company, it was believed, must remove the stocks from its assets, and it could not sell such large amounts of inactive stocks without the consent of the stockholders. I requested the trust company of which I am president to take these stocks and hold them until an advantageous sale could be made. The books of the trust company show these stocks were taken.

"Subsequently, for some reason, the holdings were changed into the form of loans to individuals, and later, I am told, the stocks were sold, with a profit of several hundred thousands of dollars, to the policy holders of the insurance company, with no profit or advantage to any other company or individual. The transaction occurred long ago, and I cannot now be certain about the details. What I state is based upon a recent inspection of the books of the trust company and from statements made to me by others. I have no recollection of any affair connected with Prussian bonds."

Mr. Fairchild is awaiting developments, and is ready to return to America immediately if necessary.

POPE PIUS GETS FUNDS.

Important Gifts to Help in His Difficulty with France.

Rome, Dec. 29.—The Pope has received many important donations to help him in the difficulties with France. They include \$40,000 from Emperor Francis Joseph of Austria, and \$400,000 from Cardinal Vaszary, archbishop of Gran, Hungary.

Cousin of President Pierce Dead.
Boston, Dec. 29.—Although identified as a cousin of Franklin Pierce, former President of the United States, the body of John W. Twombly, the shoe worker of Lynn, who died at the Lynn Hospital, of pneumonia yesterday morning, lies unclaimed at Haven's undertaking rooms, and will probably be buried at the expense of the city. Twombly came from Farmington, N. H.

I SAW YOUR AD IN THE HERALD

RUSSIAN FAMINE DIRE

Peasants Parting with Stock for Price of the Hides.

STARVING ON ACORN BREAD

Heartrending Picture of Distress in Reports Made by British Consular Agents—Government Makes No Effort to Alleviate Suffering—Cattle Cannot Live Till Spring.

Special to The Washington Herald.

London, Dec. 29.—Heartrending reports have been received by the foreign office from British consuls in Russia regarding the condition of that country's peasantry. It is openly asserted by these officials that while the Russian government here is supposed to be investigating the alleged shortcomings of the firms employed to convey supplies to the famine region, the unhappy and innocent people are permitted to suffer under privations without the slightest official effort being made to alleviate their suffering.

The crops have failed completely. There is neither food nor forage. The granaries stand absolutely empty. Over a stretch of 1,000 versts there are only in eleven villages a few house owners who have left a little of the corn stores from five to ten years ago. There is no trace of either oats or buckwheat. Cattle and horses are sold for trifles. Horses are valued at the price of their skins—from 6 to 7 rubles each—cows fetch 3 or 4 rubles more, sheep 1 ruble 50 kopecks each. Old straw taken off the roofs is sold for 3 to 4 rubles the cartload. In the Buzluk district a prickly, worthless herb has been gathered for fodder; also oak leaves, to gather which the people often traveled many versts to the crown forests. It is doubtful if any animal can be kept alive until the spring snows come. The number of cattle without horses is increasing daily, even in the steppes where for a man to be without a horse is like being a bird without wings.

Fed on Acorn Flour.

According to one consular report, the investigation found only seven out of thirty-three villages in which acorn flour was not mixed with the rye to make the scanty bread. In some villages acorn flour bread alone was eaten. This bread, the report says, looks like earth, but it has formed the staple food of millions of people since September. Such is it that there is nowhere enough to give more than one meal a day to each person. The children are given usually this acorn flour mixed with hot water and made into a sort of gruel. The people have a strange look from feeding on this "hungry bread," as it is called. They are pale and exhausted, and have dimmed eyes and shaking limbs. Where "hungry bread" is eaten there also are found scurvy and typhoid.

The assistance that is being sent by the government is wholly insufficient in quantity and badly organized. Men who can work are excluded from assistance, and yet it is impossible to obtain work anywhere. During the famine of 1898 private charity largely reduced the misery of the people. Red Cross relief depots being opened in nearly every village in the stricken districts. Little is seen of the Red Cross organization now, or of the zemstvo organization, except in the Buzluk district. The central government has, in fact, actually forbidden the organization of relief committees, fearing the same might become revolutionary propaganda. Meanwhile newspapers are being suppressed for hinting at the discovery of more gross frauds in connection with the distribution of the government relief corn.

Chinese to Stop Opium Habit.

Beijing, Dec. 29.—The Chinese government is endeavoring to eradicate the opium evil and to enforce the regulations to that end. The Viceroy Yuan Shi-kai has issued very strict instructions to all his departments, to the customs, and to the chief of police to enforce the regulations. The board of home affairs has ordered copies of the regulations to be sent to the provinces and villages, where the headmen are to explain their meaning to the people. Advice from the provinces that the local authorities are active, and that at Suchan, the headquarters of the Anti-Opium League, the military authorities have ordered the officers and men to obey the regulations. The police of Peking have issued 1,000 copies of the regulations, and have printed and posted up, and have also issued strict instructions regarding anti-opium pills, and declaring that all sellers of anti-opium medicine must be registered and the medicine examined by the police. Sellers of morphia and quack medicines will be punished.

Japanese to Increase Army.
The proposal to reduce the term of active service with the colors in the Japanese army from three years to two, as announced by the government, is being discussed by the military authorities.

Water Supply Cut Off.
Danger of Fire on Staten Island Alarms Officials.

New York, Dec. 29.—The north shore of Staten Island is without water, and officials of a private company, which owns the only source of supply, admitted today its inability to furnish water for the next few days.

A superintendent of the company said today that in the event of a fire along the north shore of Richmond borough, the fire department would be obliged to let the buildings burn. The condition was so serious today that the water company sent out water wagons to furnish residents with drinking water.

Getting water for bathing, washing, or fire purposes, before Monday at the very earliest, an official of the company said, was out of the question.

FROM WOMAN'S POINT OF VIEW.

Medical science, while waxing fat at the expense of foolish humanity, declares that practically seven-eighths of our ills are due to overfeeding. There is honesty for you, although the doctors take no chances of diminishing their incomes by frankness, because men and women prefer much feeding and its consequences to moderation that means any curtailment of pleasure. Eating is regarded as the chief pleasure of existence.

It has been stated, on good authority, that the prevalence of head colds is due to overeating, and that the ailment is wholly unknown to tramps, despite exposure. They die from pneumonia and consumption, but are immune to a quarter where better care of health is powerless to ward off the affliction, and to food, alone, or the lack of it, is attributed the cause. There are compensations even in tramp life, it seems.

But imagine a doctor doing the foolish things for which he censures his patients! One of the professions has died since Thanksgiving Day from the effects of the turkey feast, and nobody knows how many fellow-sufferers are scattered through the country. Death is the extreme penalty, and somewhat rare, but sickness of various kinds can, undoubtedly, be directly traced to greediness on the national holiday, a greater degree of greediness than usually prevails.

I heard a man say that his own well-spread board was meager compared to that of our ancestors on similar occasions. Probably so, but our ancestors were hardly able to throw off the effects of a hearty meal. We do not take into consideration the great difference between their life and the one that claims our attention. As it is, we eat altogether too much food for our health and comfort, and the fashionable remedy for most ailments is semi-starvation for a period of varying length.

There are doctors who cure by diet with such success as to save us money on drugs. I know one who devoted so much time to the study of this kind of medicine as to make possible a set of printed cards which he distributed where he thought they might do the most good—in hotels and restaurants. There was a list of foods for the person with rheumatic tendency, for the owner of a weak stomach, for the full-blooded and the emaciated, but strange to say, nobody wanted these little helpers, so his good efforts were wasted.

The great Edison says that he has not only become convinced that mortals sleep too much, but is getting to believe that they eat many times more than they should. He is proving his beliefs by personal experiments, and says that his power to work and endure fatigue has increased to an amazing degree. Why do we not follow his example and snap our fingers at high prices by cutting down our food supply? Because we are creatures of habit, first and always, and less than three meals a day seems like starvation. Adding to the number is easier than sacrifice.

BETTY BRADSEN.

announced from Tokyo, is now being explained by a semi-official note published at the Japanese capital. In all probability the service in the First Reserve will be lengthened to five years and four months—that is to say, by one year—the total liability to military service extending over the same term as at present—namely, until the soldier is forty years of age. The reduction of the term with colors has the effect of adding 50 per cent. in round numbers, to the force which the empire can, if necessary, place in the field. A rough calculation has been made, according to which Japan will be able to count on having an army of 750,000 men, but this does not, of course, represent the actual number she will possess of trained troops any more than did the figure which was first given by many foreign journals at the beginning of the Russo-Japanese war—accurately indicate the strength of the resources in trained men which Japan could then call upon for effective service.

Alpine Monks Are Snow Prisoners.

Terrible snowstorms are sweeping over the Alps, and fears are entertained that many lives have been lost.

The fall of snow has been so heavy that the lowest valleys are deeply covered. Many villages are isolated and cannot be reached for some time. A great loss of cattle will be sustained by the farmers. All the passes are blocked with snow, and the monks in the hospices are imprisoned. They are, however, always well prepared with provisions for a winter siege.

Much misery prevails everywhere among the poor, but the snow and the frozen ground are delighting the devotees of winter sports, who are arriving in large numbers.

The only disadvantage for which visitors are suffering is the late arrival of mail, caused by snow obstructions on the railways.

CLEVELAND IS BETTER.

Ex-President Recovering from Severe Attack of Indigestion.

Princeton, N. J., Dec. 29.—It was announced today that former President Grover Cleveland was recovering from the severe attack of indigestion from which he has been suffering all the week. Dr. John N. Carnehan, his physician, said that his illness has been serious, but that he was practically over it today. Mr. Cleveland attended a banquet in New York a week ago last night. After returning home the next day, he was suddenly taken ill of indigestion and was compelled to cancel all Christmas engagements. He did not begin to show signs of improvement until Wednesday. His family expect him to be able to eat dinner with them to-morrow.

TWO CARDINALS DIE IN DAY.

Mrs. Cavagnis and Trippi Pass Away—Got Red Hot at Same Time.

Rome, Dec. 29.—Cardinal Cavagnis was found dead in bed this morning, having succumbed to paralysis of the heart.

Cardinal Trippi also was reported to have died of paralysis during the night, but after remaining unconscious for a short time he revived. Cardinal Trippi died later.

Cardinal Luigi Trippi was the prefect of the Congregation of Indulgences and Sacred Relics. He was born in Italy in 1836, and was created a cardinal in 1901.

COMSTOCK DROPS SUIT.

New York Art Students' League Will Not Be Prosecuted.

New York, Dec. 29.—There will be no prosecution of the young woman known in the court records as Anna Robinson, bookkeeper of the Art Students' League, for the dissemination last summer of the catalogue of the league containing representations of nude drawings by the young men and women pupils.

Anthony Comstock, who saved 2,500 of the 12,000 copies printed, and who caused the arrest of Miss Robinson because she sold him a copy, has consented that the case shall be dropped. He has done this because the league's catalogue has been destroyed, and also because it is the opinion of the district attorney's office that the "publication was done with honorable intent and involves no such moral obliquity as is deserving of punishment by law."

Assistant District Attorney Smythe, who has had charge of the case, will move its dismissal when it comes up for trial.

ARMY AND NAVY.

Army Orders.

Capt. LINCOLN C. ANDREWS, Fifteenth Cavalry, relieved from West Point, and assigned to duty as adjutant, Department of California as chief paymaster.

Col. PHILIP READE, Twenty-third Infantry, Maj. Joseph T. E. Smith, Twenty-third Cavalry.

Capt. GUY B. PRESTON, Thirtieth Cavalry, Capt. ERNEST D. SCOTT, Artillery Corps, Maj. R. H. BICE, Ordnance Department, assigned to duty as adjutant, Department of California as chief paymaster.

First Lieut. ROY L. TAYLOR, Artillery Corps, assigned to duty as adjutant, Department of California as chief paymaster.

First Lieut. FRANK T. THORNTON, Artillery Corps, assigned to duty as adjutant, Department of California as chief paymaster.

Maj. EDI D. HOYLE, Artillery Corps, to Fort Sam Houston, Texas, as adjutant.

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First Lieut. JOHN B. HUGGINS, assistant surgeon, from San Francisco to Washington Barracks, and report for duty with Company C, Hospital.

Capt. EDWARD N. JONES, Jr., infantry, and GEORGE H. McMANUS, Artillery Corps, are relieved from duty in Quartermaster's Department.

Dental Surgeon REX H. RHOADES, from Fort Sherman to Colorado, relieving Dental Surgeon S. Davis, who will proceed to Havana.

Dental Surgeon JOHN A. McALISTER, from President of Monterey to Fort Sheridan.

Col. HERBERT S. FOSTER, retired, to Fort Jay, New York, relieving Second Lieut. John S. Hamilton, Twelfth Infantry.

Naval Orders.

Rear Admiral C. H. DAVIS, detached as division commander, First Squadron, Atlantic fleet, to command Second Squadron.

Commander G. E. RUDD, detached as assistant to superior, naval academy, Atlantic coast, to command Second Squadron.

Lieut. Commander K. McALPINE, detached Ohio, to navy yard, Norfolk.

Lieut. Commander J. V. CHASE, to temporary duty, navy yard, Norfolk.

Lieut. W. R. SEXTON, detached command Ve-nus, to Maine.

Lieut. S. L. M. MAJOR, detached Maine, to Denver.

Lieut. F. L. SHEFFIELD, detached Denver, to Ohio.

Ensign P. S. WHITTEN, detached Yorktown, to Chicago.

Ensign C. S. KERRICK and Midshipman W. A. GLASSFORD, Jr., detached Chicago, to Preble.

Midshipman J. E. POND, detached Preble, to Princeton.

Midshipman C. A. DUNN and C. O. BARRETT, detached Chicago, to Preble.

Midshipman C. A. WOODRUFF, detached Chicago, to Boston.

Surgeon B. L. WRIGHT, to Naval Hospital, New York, to navy yard, Norfolk.

Surgeon J. G. FIELD, detached Naval Hospital, New York, to navy yard, Norfolk.

Chaplain H. W. JONES, to Franklin, navy yard, Norfolk, in connection with crew for Minnesota, and that vessel when commissioned.

MOVEMENT OF VESSELS.—The following movements of vessels have been reported at the Bureau of Navigation:

Arrived—December 27, Vesuvius, at Newport, December 28, Protos, at Sydney, Nova Scotia.

Sailed—December 28, Kentucky, at Maine, from navy yard, New York, for Hampton Roads; Illinois, from Boston for Hampton Roads; Louisiana, from New York for Hampton Roads; Eagle, from Port Antonio for survey duty; Hamburg, from Havana for Key West.

SECRETARY TAFT WILL NOT DECLINE

Continued from First Page.

held out to him of being the Republican standard-bearer in the next national campaign. Naturally, he was flattered over assurances from not only his own friends, but many leading Republicans, that he was the one man who could save his party and the country in 1908. Besides he knows, as nearly everybody did, that he was President Roosevelt's favorite for the race. But Mr. Taft was not carried off his feet. He positively declined to permit his friends to herald him as a candidate for Mr. Roosevelt's shoes or to make any efforts, no matter how circum-spectly conducted, to get him prestige and votes among those who will have a say in the selection of the next Republican nominee for President.

Early this year, when it became known that President Roosevelt had offered Secretary Taft the place on the United States Supreme Bench to be made vacant by the prospective retiree of Mr. Justice Henry B. Brown, there was much talk about Mr. Taft's Presidential prospects. It was said then that the President was going to get Mr. Taft out of the way so that he could run for President. Another nomination for the highest office in the land. As a matter of fact, Mr. Roosevelt had no intention at that time, and has not now, of trying to secure a third term. He was, however, well prepared with the President's tendencies toward the bench, and it was not as an act of questionable friendliness, but as a compliment to a man whom he liked as much for his ability as for personal reasons, that the President gave Mr. Taft the opportunity of realizing his ambition to do the errand.

When Mr. Taft declined, after several months' consideration, to accept the flattering proffer of a dignified life office, and William H. Moody, another member of Mr. Roosevelt's Cabinet, was chosen for Justice Brown's place, there was a natural resumption of the reports that Mr. Taft was listening to the buzzing of the Presidential bee. But those who credited those reports overlooked the important fact that they were not fully acquainted with the circumstances which led to Mr. Taft's declination.

Why Offer Was Declined.
At the time President Roosevelt told Mr. Taft that the empty vacancy on the highest judicial tribunal was his if he wanted it, the Secretary of War was engaged in work which he was anxious to complete before leaving the War Department. Panama Canal affairs were not progressing as satisfactorily as he desired, and there were things to be done with reference to the Philippines which he wanted to do himself. There were other important policies pending, also.

In not giving the President a positive answer at the time the statement of the highest judicial tribunal was his if he wanted it, the Secretary of War was engaged in work which he was anxious to complete before leaving the War Department. Panama Canal affairs were not progressing as satisfactorily as he desired, and there were things to be done with reference to the Philippines which he wanted to do himself. There were other important policies pending, also.

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